

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/074,010

Examiner

Mark Kopec

Applicant(s)

KAMIKORIYAMA ET AL.

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 2/14/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16 and 18-20.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Mark Kopec
Primary Examiner
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The amendment/response filed 12/30/03 is entered. Claim 17 has been cancelled.

Note the election of species (Paper 12/11/03) is withdrawn.

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Keiser (4,613,454) discloses a stable aqueous acidic metal oxide/silica sol which contains from 5-40% by weight SiO_2 , from 1-10.5% by weight of metal oxide, and a water-soluble anionic stabilizing compound selected from the group consisting of water-soluble anionic surfactants having an HLB greater than 8 and water-soluble carboxylic acid polymers with the ratio of metal oxide to water-soluble anionic stabilizing compound being within the range of 0.3:1 to 15:1 9Abstract; Col 5, lines 20-25).

Morgan et al (5,158,605) discloses Viscous aqueous electroless plating solutions comprising ionic depositable metal species such as copper or nickel, metal complexing agent such as EDTA, metal reducing agent such as formaldehyde or hypophosphite and thickener such as xanthan gum, silica or

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carboxymethylcellulose have a viscosity greater than 50 cp, for instance up to 20,000 cp. The viscous solutions are useful for electrolessly depositing metal onto moving or inclined catalytic substrates and as a component of kits for applying electrolessly deposited metal images to such surfaces (Abstract; Example 1).

Sullivan et al (4,774,270) discloses an aqueous based electrically conductive paint having substantially enhanced settling properties employing a nickel flake pigment and a surfactant having substantial unsaturation characteristics. Paint finds particular application in providing EMI and RFI shielding for electrical components when applied to cabinetry housing such components (Abstract)

The references do not disclose or suggest the instantly recited aqueous nickel slurry compositions containing coated nickel powder, polyacrylic acid, and additive. Note also that applicant has provided comparative examples in the instant specification disclosing superior/unobvious results.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Kopec whose telephone number is (571) 272-1319. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Yogendra Gupta can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Mark Kopec
Primary Examiner
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MK

February 2, 2004